

Reading Skill: Predicting

1. What are the main things to consider when you predict what will happen in a story?
 - A. the plot and the title of the work
 - B. the names and personalities of the story characters
 - C. the author and the setting of the work
 - D. your prior knowledge and the details in the story
2. What is the best way to make predictions as you read a story?
 - A. Make a prediction as you read, and then read further to see if it comes true.
 - B. Make a prediction as you read, and then peek at the ending to see if you are right.
 - C. Make just one or two predictions because making too many will spoil the story.
 - D. Make a prediction when you read the title and stick with that prediction until the end.
3. Which of these details most clearly predicts that the film is about to start?
 - A. Sharon buys a ticket and gives it to the usher, who rips it in half.
 - B. Larry removes his coat and hat after finding his seat in the theater.
 - C. The movie theater darkens, and the audience grows quiet.
 - D. Sarah returns from the food concession and takes her seat.

Read this selection from a short story. Then, answer the questions that follow.

Lana sat in the chair nervously, waiting for Dr. Curry. Finally, the dentist came in, greeting her as he washed his hands. He made some adjustments to her chair, asked her to open her mouth, and then took a hand tool with a curved prong and began exploring Lana's mouth. "Ouch," she said when he touched one molar. "Oh, dear," Dr. Curry told her, "I'm afraid you have a big one right there." He turned to the counter for some preparation and soon was back with a hypodermic needle in his hand.

4. From the details in the selection, which of these predictions seems most likely to happen?
 - A. The dentist will inject anesthetic in Lana's gums and then drill and fill her cavity.
 - B. The dentist will inject anesthetic in Lana's gums and then pull her tooth out.
 - C. The dentist will tell Lana that everything looks fine and then clean her teeth.
 - D. The dentist will send Lana home with instructions to take better care of her teeth.
5. What prior knowledge is most helpful in making a prediction about what happens next?
 - A. knowing the properties of dental anesthetics and laughing gas
 - B. knowing typical procedures at a dentist's office
 - C. knowing the fears some people have about going to the dentist
 - D. knowing the products people use in caring for their teeth

Literary Analysis: Plot and Point of View

6. What part of a story introduces the characters and setting?
 - A. exposition
 - B. rising action
 - C. falling action
 - D. resolution
7. In what part of the story does the reader learn the final outcome?
 - A. exposition
 - B. rising action
 - C. falling action
 - D. resolution
8. What is the point of view of a story?

- A. the author’s attitude toward his or her subject or audience
- B. the perspective from which the narrator tells the story
- C. the customs of the period in which the story takes place
- D. the main idea, insight, or message of the story

Read the story. Then, answer the questions that follow.

(1) The Alaska Gold Rush brought many newcomers north, hoping to strike it rich. (2) One of these newcomers was Art Calder. (3) Calder had arrived over a week earlier but was stuck in the tiny mining town of Nugget because of the bad weather. (4) Impatient to begin, Calder decided to go off on his own. (5) “It’s forty below,” an old timer told him, but Calder didn’t care. (6) “What a fool!” the old timer muttered after Calder left. (7) “He’ll never make it.” (8) Meanwhile, Calder left with no companion except his sled dog. (9) The snow got worse and worse. (10) Even through all his layers, Calder’s fingers and feet were freezing. (11) He could not see a thing ahead of him and decided to turn back, but then he realized he could not see behind him either. (12) Panicking, he wondered if he could survive. (13) Then, suddenly, his sled dog pulled at him. (14) Realizing the dog knew more about Alaska than he did, he let himself be led back to Nugget. (15) As he entered the shelter and spotted the old timer, Calder admitted that he had been a fool.

9. Which part of the story is the exposition?

- A. sentences 1–2
- B. sentences 3–4
- C. sentences 5–7
- D. sentence 15

10. Around what conflict do the events of the story center?

- A. Calder’s struggle with the Alaskan wilderness
- B. the sled dog’s problems with Calder
- C. Calder’s argument with the old timer about leaving
- D. Calder’s drive to be rich and famous

11. Where does the climax of the story take place?

- A. sentence 3–4
- B. sentences 8–9
- C. sentences 11–14
- D. sentences 14–15

12. From what point of view is the story narrated?

- A. first person
- B. third person, limited to the thoughts and experiences of one character
- C. second person
- D. third person, providing the thoughts and experiences of all characters

13. What is the difference between fiction and nonfiction?

- A. In fiction, everything must be made up; in nonfiction, some things must be true.
- B. In fiction, at least one thing must be made up; in nonfiction, everything must be true.
- C. In fiction, everything must be true; in nonfiction, some things can be made up.
- D. In fiction, at least one thing is true; in nonfiction, everything must be made up.

14. Which of these is an example of nonfiction?

- A. a short story
 - B. a novel
 - C. a folk tale
 - D. a biography
- lack of care B. care taken in advance D. insufficient care

Reading Skill: Fact and Opinion

15. Which of these statements applies to all nonfiction?

- A. It usually focuses on the experiences of one person.
- B. It contains both facts and opinions.
- C. It contains some details that are real and some that are made up.

D. It contains only facts, with no opinions.

16. What is a fact?

- A. A fact is something that can be proved.
- B. A fact is something that can be argued.
- C. A fact is something that has a value.
- D. A fact is a person's best judgment.

17. Which of these words or phrases most often signals an opinion?

- A. I believe
- B. I remember
- C. according to
- D. statistics show

18. Of these choices, which is the best source for checking facts?

- A. advertisements
- B. books of essays
- C. encyclopedias
- D. newspaper editorials

Reading Skill: Make and Support Assertions

Read the following list of details from an atlas entry on Guam. Then, answer the questions.

Guam

Guam, a territory of the United States, is an island in the Pacific Ocean. The economy of Guam depends on spending by the U.S. military, tourism, and the exports of fish and handicrafts. Tourism has grown rapidly over the past 20 years, with more than 1 million tourists visiting each year. Sometimes called "America in Asia," Guam boasts over 20 large hotels, 10 golf courses, superior entertainment, and American-style malls. Guam is a relatively short flight from Asia compared to tourist destinations like Hawaii. Ninety percent of Guam's tourists come from Japan. The economic revenue is divided as follows: agriculture: 7%; industry: 15%; services: 78%.

19. Which of the following assertions could you make about Guam based on the atlas entry?

- A. Guam is a rich country.
- B. Many people in Guam are fishers.
- C. People in Guam rely heavily on tourism.
- D. The country grows all of its own food.

20. Which sentence from the entry supports the assertion that most people living in Guam work in a service job?

- A. The economy of Guam depends on spending by the U.S. military, tourism, and the exports of fish and handicrafts.
- B. Tourism has grown rapidly over the past 20 years, with more than 1 million tourists visiting each year.
- C. Sometimes called "America in Asia," Guam boasts over 20 large hotels, 10 golf courses, superior entertainment, and American-style malls.
- D. The economic revenue is divided as follows: agriculture: 7%; industry: 15%; services: 78%.

21. Which of the following assertions about Japanese tourists in Guam is supported by the atlas entry?

- A. They do not spend a great deal of money on the island.
- B. They would rather travel to Hawaii, but it is too far away.
- C. They find Guam appealing because of its location and features.
- D. They do not care for the American-style malls, but they enjoy the entertainment.

Literary Analysis: Author's Perspective and Tone

22. What is an author's perspective?

- A. the viewpoint from which the author writes
- B. the background research an author does to check his or her facts

- C. the time and place in which the work happens
 - D. the feeling or atmosphere that the work creates for the reader
23. Which of these most strongly affects the author's perspective?
- A. the pronouns that the author uses to identify characters
 - B. the personalities of the different characters
 - C. the background and beliefs of the author
 - D. the background and beliefs of the reader
24. What does the tone of a literary work usually express?
- A. the attitude of the reader
 - B. the attitude of the writer
 - C. the mood of a character
 - D. the loudness of a character's speech
25. Which phrase best describes the tone of these sentences?
Those Cruz brothers talk like jackhammers. I love those guys—don't get me wrong!—but when it comes to their chatter, I sure do wish they'd practice a little Cruz Control.
- A. formal and serious
 - B. formal but lighthearted
 - C. informal but sad
 - D. informal and humorous
26. Which tone would be most suited to an obituary for someone who has died?
- A. a happy, formal tone
 - B. a happy, informal tone
 - C. a sad and angry tone
 - D. a sad but admiring tone

Greenlawn is a wonderful place to visit or live in. It's a small, kid-friendly city, with a brand new aquarium, a fine old zoo, and a first-class natural history museum. When the kids are busy playing in Prospect Park or swimming in its lifeguard-supervised pool, parents can lunch at some of the best restaurants in the state. As a lifelong resident, I've watched Greenlawn grow from a sleepy berg to a bustling small city. And as mayor, I promise you, this is one city that has never lost its small-town friendly ways.

27. What personal interest does the author of the selection seem to have in his or her subject?
- A. As a lifelong resident of Greenlawn, he is interested in providing an accurate history.
 - B. As mayor of Greenlawn, he is interested in making the city look as good as possible.
 - C. As someone who loves science, he stresses the aquarium and natural history museum.
 - D. As someone who loves to eat, he gives a lot of information about Greenlawn's restaurants.
28. How would you describe the tone of this selection?
- A. serious and formal
 - B. humorous and witty
 - C. angry and bitter
 - D. enthusiastic and admiring